

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES



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## Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Melody A. Currey Transportation Committee Public Hearing March 5, 2014

<u>H.B. No. 5460</u> (RAISED) AN ACT ALLOWING PERSONS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS CONTROLLED WITH MEDICATION TO OBTAIN CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSES.

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrera, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee. I am here today to testify regarding HB 5460 AN ACT ALLOWING PERSONS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS CONTROLLED WITH MEDICATION TO OBTAIN CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSES. The legislation as drafted would seem to require DMV to issue a driver license endorsement to an applicant who is currently ineligible to receive an endorsement due to a medical condition, if the applicant controls the medical condition with medication prescribed by a doctor.

DMV has serious concerns that this proposal would allow a motor vehicle operator with serious medical issues to obtain an endorsement enabling the operator to drive vehicles, such as student transportation vehicles, which transport school children and other passengers. Under current law, such an applicant would be prevented from obtaining such an endorsement due to certain medical conditions. This proposal would potentially result in vehicle operators allowed to transport passengers, including children, placing the driver, the vehicle's passengers and the rest of the motoring public at great risk.

DMV follows federal law and guidelines when examining whether to issue an applicant an endorsement on their driver license. However, this legislation as currently drafted appears to allow individuals who currently are not qualified to obtain an endorsement to be able to do so. As a result, DMV has significant apprehension and cannot support this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 5460.